Variegated Golden Dewdrop (tree form)

Duranta erecta 'Variegata (tree form)'



Variegated Golden Dewdrop (tree form)
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 5 feet

Spread: 3 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 8

Other Names: Sky Flower, Pigeon Berry

Description:

A beautiful small tree producing clusters of showy violet-blue flowers over lovely yellow and green variegated foliage; showy flowers and fruit makes this a noticeable garden accent

Ornamental Features

Variegated Golden Dewdrop (tree form) features showy clusters of violet flowers with blue overtones and white edges at the ends of the branches in mid summer. It has attractive green foliage edged in yellow which emerges yellow in spring. The serrated pointy leaves are highly ornamental and remain green throughout the winter. It features an abundance of magnificent orange berries in late summer.

Landscape Attributes

Variegated Golden Dewdrop (tree form) is an evergreen shrub, selected and trained to grow in a small tree-like form with the primary plant grafted high atop a standard. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It is a good choice for attracting birds and butterflies to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Variegated Golden Dewdrop (tree form) is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Variegated Golden Dewdrop (tree form) will grow to be about 5 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. It tends to be a little leggy, with a typical clearance of 3 feet from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 40 years or more.

This shrub should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil type, but has a definite preference for acidic soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selection of a native North American species, and parts of it are known to be toxic to humans and animals, so care should be exercised in planting it around children and pets.

Variegated Golden Dewdrop (tree form) makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.